History of the United States Army Inspector General System

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Russia: Early 19th Century

IG History

IG History

Enabling Learning Objectives

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- **Describe the origins of the IG system.**
- **Describe the von Steuben model and why IGs adhere to that model today.**
- **Identify the four historical constants of how commanders have used Army IGs since the 18th Century and the beginning of the Army IG system.**
- **Describe the meaning of the IG crest.**

Why Inspectors Genera

- Armies were becoming larger and more complex
- Standardization and discipline was
- Soldiers and Armies were changing

Origins of the IG System

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IG History

- **French** - 1668
  - Worked for the Kin
  - Full authority to pu ish
  - Geographic focus
- **Prussian – 1750**
  - King's "eyes and ears"
  - Drill and discipline
  - Improve unit efficiency
- **British - 1760**
  - Functional areas
  - An additional duty
  - Enforce accountability
  - CSS functions

IG History

First American "*Inspector*"

"An army marches on its stomach..."
Napoleon Bonaparte

- **April 1777 -- Commissary Inspector**

American Agents in France

IG History

- **Ben Franklin, Arthur Lee and Silas Dean**
- **Mission:**
  - ✓ **Recruit experienced military leadership**
  - ✓ **Get French into the wa**
  - ✓ **Secure financing**

IG History

Early American IGs

Augustin Montin de la Balme

- **Recruited by Ben Franklin**
- **Cavalryman**
- **May 1777 - Lieutenant Colonel of Horse**
- **July 1777 – Inspector General of Cavalry**
- **Resigned in protest October 1777**

- **Killed in action 1780**

Early American IGs

IG History

- Phillipe Charles Jean Baptiste Tronson du Coudray
- **Recruited by Silas Deane**
  - **Major General, Artillery Chi**
- **IG of Ordnance and Milita Manufactories**
- **Pompous troublemaker**
- **16 September 1777 -- Historic ride**

Council of 14 Generals 29 October 1777

- Convened by Washington
- Proposed duties of Inspector General:
  - ✓ Serve as drillmaster general
  - ✓ Establish uniform tactics
  - ✓ Publish manual on drill
  - ✓ Organize and lead training
  - ✓ Ensure troop proficiency

IG History

Congressional Resolution 13 December 1777

- **Two Inspectors General authorized**
- **IG would report findings directly to Congress (Board of War [BoW])**
- **BoW regulated and made all tactical and strategic decisions for the Army**
- **Commander was responsible for tactical operations**

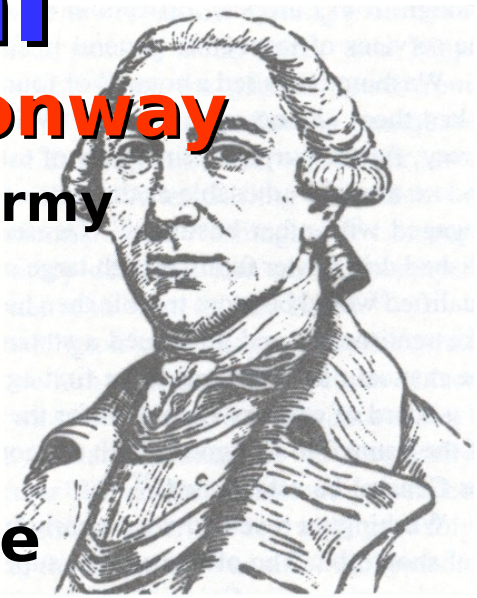
Congressional Resolution 13 December 1777

- **IG procedures and responsibilities:**
  - ✓ **Notify regimental commanders of their reviews**
  - ✓ **Have commanders prepare return lists in triplicate**
    - ➢ **(Equivalent of today's Unit Status Report)**
  - ✓ **Talk to and observe unit personnel and equipment**
  - ✓ **Produce regulations for maneuvering the troops**

- **First IG was Brigadier General Thomas Conway**

First United States Army Inspector General

IG History



- **Brigadier General Thomas Conway**
  - **Irish born, 20+ years in the French Army**
  - **Recruited by Silas Deane**
  - **Member of Council of 14 Generals**
  - **Self-serving, pompous braggart**
- **Promoted and sent to Valley Forge**
- **Washington dismissed him as he had no manual for instructing soldiers as directed by Congress for the IG to use**
- **Bottom Line: Army wasn't big enough for Washington and Conway together!**

Washington's IG Concept

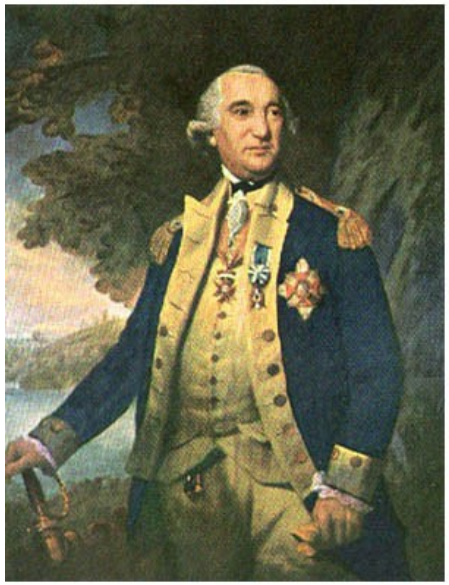
IG History

- **Appealed to Congress**
- **Detailed his IG concept**
- **Commander-in-Chief:**
  - ✓ **Accountable to civil authority (Congress)**
  - ✓ **Selects his own IG**
- **IG answers to the Commander -- not to Congress**

Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Augustus Heinrich von Steuben

IG History

- **Recruited by Ben Franklin**
  - **Entered Prussian Army in 1747**
  - **Captain**
  - **Served on Frederick the Great's staff**
  - **Retired after 28 years of service**
  - **Bankrupt and jobless – a failure in civilian life**



- **Franklin "embellished" records (Captain to General)**
- **Credentials given to Congress in December 1777**
- **Ordered to Valley Forge and arrived in February 1778**

Situation at Valley Forge

IG History

"Nothing was so difficult and often impossible as to get a correct list of the states or *return* of any company, regiment or corps."

"In our European armies a man who has been drilled for three months is called a recruit; here, in two months, I must have a soldier!"

-- *Baron von Steuben*

Drillmaster General von Steuben

IG History

- In March 1778, he trained one squad of Washington's guard

- Sub-inspectors trained squads; von Steuben supervised the trainers
- Daily company drill and weekly inspections

Inspector General von Steuben

IG History

- **Appointed IG in March 1778 by Washington**
- **Confirmed by Congress appointment in May 1778 and:**
  - **Promoted von Steuben to Major General**
  - **Established IG positions to brigade level**
  - **Authorized commander to appoint IGs**
  - **Authorized additional pay for IGs!**

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Major General von Steuben: The first Effective U.S. Army IG

- Standard regulations and tactics
- Codified in the "Blue Book"

- *Acted under Commander's intent*
- *Respected by subordinate commanders*
- *Won Commander's support and confidence*

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Pop Quiz

Who is the only Army IG to appear on U.S. currency?

1790 ~ Civil War

- 1790s: TIG was second in command
- After 1800
  - **IG duties assigned to Adjutant General**
  - **Position of IG was eliminated in 1812**
- 1813: Army staff reorganized
  - **Inspector General's Department established**
  - **TIG, eight inspectors general, and many assistant inspectors general**
  - **No centrally developed doctrine that clearly defined the role of the IG**

Pop Quiz

Which TIG has a mountain named after him?

Post Civil War ~ 1900

IG History

- **War Department defined IG duties**
- **1876: Secretary of War directed:**
  - **The Inspector General of the Army to report to the General of the Army on all subjects pertaining to military control and discipline**
  - **Field IGs to report directly to the unit Commanding General**
- **Bottom line: An IG was no longer a "spy" from a higher headquarters**
- **This relationship continues today**

Pop Quiz

Which TIGs served the shortest and the longest time?

IG History

1900 ~ 1939

- **Inspected regiments deploying to the Philippine Insurrection – poor results**
- **Established a systematic inspectorate in the Philippine Islands**
- **Root Reforms – Field IG ideas sought and acted upon; focus was on training**
- **Field inspections of units (vice garrison)**

Pop Quiz

Which TIG has a post named for him?

IG History

1940 ~ 1949

- **1940 - Commanding Generals down to division level allocated an IG under their direct control**
- **During WWII - IG mission grew in importance and scope (mobilization, inspections, investigations)**
- **By 1945 - about 3,000 IGs around the world**
- **Postwar - Assistance function emerges:**
  - **In one year the Army demobilized from nine million to a few hundred thousand!**
  - **Soldiers complained they weren't being discharged quickly enough.**

1950

Army Reorganization Act

- Inspector General's Department renamed Office of the Inspector General of the Army (**OTIG**)
- TIG was now:
  - ✓ **Responsible** to Chief of Staff, Army
  - ✓ **Responsive** to Secretary of the Army
  - ✓ Inquire into and report upon the discipline, efficiency, and economy of the Army
  - ✓ Focus on training and combat readiness

The Early 1950s

- **1952: IG training begins**
  - **Previously, the IG's Department distributed instructional material to each IG in the form of inspection and investigation guides, handbooks, and procedural material**

- **1953: Legal case resulted in the classification of IG data as having restricted access and use**

The Late 1950s

- **1956: SecArmy placed technical proficiency inspections of Army atomic organizations under IG jurisdiction**
- **1957: IG qualifications formally codified:**
  - **Highest caliber of Army officers with special qualifications:**
    - ✓ **Mature with broad military experience**
    - ✓ **Had not previously completed a normal three-year tour as an IG and had the moral and personal traits necessary for a position of dignity and prestige**

The 1960s

- **1960: First standardized Inspector General Action Process (IGAP) Published in**

  IG Technical Bulletin #4

- **1961: IG course of instruction presented to groups composed entirely of foreign officers (Republic of Korea Army officers in Seoul, Korea, and Nationalist Chinese Army Officers in Taipei, Formosa)**

Pop Quiz

Who was the first African- American TIG?

IG History

1970 ~ Today

- **Focus shifted from compliance to systemic inspection methodology**
- **IG system became automated**
- **1986: Goldwater-Nichols Reorganization Act reversed the IG section of the 1950 Army Reorganization Act and changed IG reporting**
- **TIG became:**
  - **Responsible to the Secretary of the Army**
  - **Responsive to the Chief of Staff, Army**

The von Steuben Model

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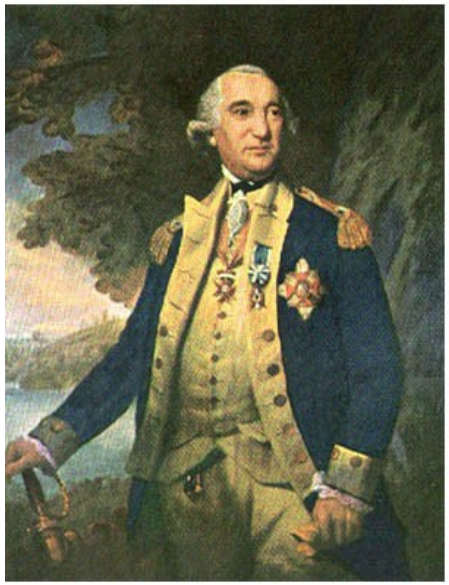
IG History

From the beginning, Inspectors General have been responsible for assisting commanders with improving readiness and warfighting capability.



Teach and Train

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Historical Constants

IG History

- **Inspectors General:**
  - **Assist commanders in checking and instilling discipline, ethics, and standards**
  - **Provide quick response for the commander's special interests**
  - **Represent readily available assets for the commander for critical but unanticipated missions**
  - **Often a substitute for a lack of experience**

ELO

IG History

Military power and justice

Civil authority

Sword

Fasces

Right

Forward

and

Wreath

Academic and intellectual achievement

"First be correct – then take action"

U.S. Army Inspector

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